(c) and (d) After the Mid Term Appraisal of Eighth Plan, Planning Commission have recommended coal production target of 263.60 m.t. for Coal India Ltd., 30.20 m.t. for Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., and 6.20 m.t. for others to be achieved by 1996-97. Grade-wise targets are not fixed by the Govt. Coal production is planned keeping in view overal. demand of coal.

Demand of steam coal in Gujarat

719. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) What is the annual demand of steam Coal for industries in Gujarat and the total demand of the State during the yeat 1994-95;

(b) whether the steam coal deman ded for industries in the State is being supplied during the above period; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken to fulfil the demand of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The requirements of coal are not assessed state-wise. They are assessed Industry/Sector-wise for the whole country. Coal India supplies coal to consumers based on the programmes submitted by the consumers in accordance with the sponsorship issued by the respective sponsoring authorities. Steam coal to industrial consumers in Gujarat is predominently made available from South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and to some extent from Western Coalfields Limited. During the period April, 94 to September, 94 SECL supplied about 2.42 lakh tonnes (Provisional) of steam coal to consumers in Gujarat as against the programme of 3 08 lakh tonnes of steam coal. The supplies could have been more but for cancellation/suspension of programmes by the consumers themselves.

Coal India Limited is trying t fulfil the entire programme placed by the consumers either by rail or by road. In case there is any shortfall in movement by rail, all consumers have opportunity to book orders by road against their unutilised sponsorship programme. In addit on coal from a number of collieries have been offered under Liberalised Sale Scheme (LSS). Coal is also supplied under LSS to Whole Sale Traders and Mini Traders who meet the demand of small and medium consumers.

Demand of Coal by Gujarat Thermal Power Stations

720. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand of coal made by Gujarat State Thermal Power Stations during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95, month-wise;

(b) the total quantity of coal allotted actually supplied during the above period;

(c) the reasons for short supply if any; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure the supply of required quantity of coal to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has assessed the coal requirements of all major coal based Power Houses in the country based on annual generation targets fixed for them. Such assessment has also been made for Power Houses under Gujarat State Electricity Board for the year as a whole.

As against the requirement of 11.78 million tonnes of coal intimated by CEA for power houses of Gujarat State Electricity Board (GEB) for the year 1993-94 the total despatches were of the order of 11.144

million tonnes showing materialisation of 95%. CEA has indicated the requirement of GEB for 1994-95 as 11.7 million tonnes. The total supplies made to GEB Power houses during the period April, 94 to October, 94 were 6.427 million tonnes (Provisional). Coal Companies are geared up to meet in full the coal requirements of Power houses in the country including those located in Gujarat State.

Underground fires in Jharia

721. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether during studies by the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) in Hyderabad, the Scientists have apprehended deterioration in underground fires in Bihar's Jharia coalfields, and have warned that the situation in the mining area is alarming and explosive;

(b) whether Jharia mainly caters to the metallurgical needs of the country;

(c) the number of underground and open-cast coal mines in Jharia coalfields; and

(d) what plan Government have drawn up to fight the surface and mine fires in Jharia Coalfields area and the techniques evolved for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The study by the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad was undertaken for development of a methodology for thermal mapping on mine fires areas in Jharia coalfields remote sensing technology, Conclusions/recommendations)of the study do not indicate any deterioration in the conditions of mire fires in Jharia coalfield.

(b) While Jharia coalfield is the main source of prime coking coal in the country, above 50% oocoking coal used in the metallurgical sector is produced in other coalfields like East/West Bokaro, Ramgarh, Pench-Kanhan and Makum etc.

(c) The number of mines in Jharia coalfields are as follows:—

	Underground	Open-casts	Mixeds	Total
Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) . .	53	12	25	90
Indian Iron & Steel Company (IISCO) .	2	..	..	2
Tata Iron & Steel Co. (ITISCO) . . .	6	..	..	6
TOTALS ...	61	12	25	98

(d) As a result of efforts made over in the period by Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., out of 70 identified fires, 5 fires have been extinguished and 6 have been contained. 22 projects are under various stages of implementation to deal with Jharia Coalfie fires. For development of long-term plan for dealing with Jharia fires a diagnostic study has been taken up with the World Bank assistance. Work on the study is in progress.